

We Claim:

1. A system for controlling a physiological function comprising

at least one electrode sized and configured to
5 be located on, in, or near a targeted component of the pudendal nerve, and

10 a pulse generator adapted to be coupled to the electrode to apply an electrical signal at a selected frequency to stimulate the targeted component, the selected frequency comprising a first frequency or range
15 of frequencies for achieving a first physiologic response and a second frequency or range of frequencies, different than the first frequency, for achieving a second physiologic response different than the first physiologic response.

2. A system according to claim 1

wherein the pulse generator includes means for modulating the selected frequency to select either the first or second frequency or range of frequencies.

20 3. A system according to claim 1

wherein the electrode is sized and configured to be located on, in, or near the pudendal nerve, and/or its branch(es), and/or its spinal root(s).

4. A system according to claim 1

25 wherein the electrode is sized and configured to be located on, in, or near a urethral afferent of the pudendal nerve and/or afferent nerve fibers in the deep perineal nerve.

5. A system according to claim 1

30 wherein the electrode comprises a single electrode.

6. A system according to claim 1

wherein the electrode comprises a multiple electrode array.

35 7. A system according to claim 1

wherein the physiological function comprises at least one of controlling urinary incontinence and controlling micturition.

8. A method for controlling a physiological
5 function comprising the steps of

placing at least one electrode on, in, or near a targeted component of the pudendal nerve, and/or its branch(es), and/or its spinal root(s),

10 applying an electrical signal to the electrode to selectively stimulate the targeted component, and

selecting between a first frequency or range of frequencies to achieve a first desired physiologic response and a second frequency or range of frequencies to achieve a second desired physiologic response
15 different than the first physiologic response.

9. A method according to claim 8
wherein the targeted component comprises a urethral afferent of the pudendal nerve and/or afferent nerve fibers in the deep perineal nerve.

20 10. A method according to claim 8
wherein the physiological function comprises one of controlling urinary incontinence and controlling micturition.

11. A system for controlling a physiological
25 function of the lower urinary tract comprising
at least one electrode sized and configured to be located on, in, or near afferent nerve fibers in the deep perineal nerve,

30 a pulse generator adapted to be coupled to the electrode to apply an electrical signal at a frequency to stimulate the afferent nerve fibers in the deep perineal nerve.

12. A system according to claim 11
wherein the frequency comprising a first
35 frequency or range of frequencies for controlling urinary

continence and a second frequency or range of frequencies, different than the first frequency, for controlling micturition.

13. A method for controlling a physiological function of the lower urinary tract comprising the steps of

10 placing at least one electrode on, in, or near afferent nerve fibers in the deep perineal nerve, and applying an electrical signal to the electrode to selectively stimulate the afferent nerve fibers in the deep perineal nerve.

15 14. A method according to claim 13 further including the step of selecting between a first frequency or range of frequencies to control urinary continence and a second frequency or range of frequencies different than the first frequency to control micturition.

15. A system for controlling a physiological function comprising

20 at least one electrode sized and configured to be located on, in, or near a targeted component of the pudendal nerve, and

25 a pulse generator adapted to be coupled to the electrode to apply differing electrical signals that vary according to frequency, and/or amplitude, and/or waveform, to stimulate the targeted component to achieve a physiologic response at different levels of effectiveness, the pulse generator including a function that permits selection of a desired level of effectiveness and that generates an electric signal according to the selection to achieve the physiologic response at the desired level of effectiveness.